

# AUSTRIA-HUNGARY RAPIDLY NEARING MILITARY COLLAPSE; ITALIANS WIN BERAT; ALLIED LINE IN BALKANS NOW UNITED; FRENCH GAIN ON 3 MILE LINE; TAKE 2 TOWNS, 500 CAPTIVES

## WILSON VETOES \$2.40 WHEAT AS UN SOUND POLICY

### Would Upset Financial Re- lationships of Allies, He Says.

### APPEALS TO FARMERS Believes They Will See Pa- triotic Reasons for Avoid- ing Price Fixing.

Special Dispatch to The Sun.  
WASHINGTON, July 12.—The prospect of farmers receiving a basic price of \$2.40 a bushel for wheat was glimmering today, when the President sent to Congress his veto of the agricultural appropriation bill which would fix that price as an amendment. With the prospect of a higher wheat price there also went glimmering the certainty that flour will cost \$12.50 a barrel at the mills instead of \$10.50 a barrel as at present.

The House adopted \$2.40 wheat a week ago by a vote of 150 to 106.

A preliminary effort was made to pass the bill over the President's veto. Chairman Lever (S. C.) of the House Committee on Agriculture asked for "the regular order" after the veto message was read, which meant putting the question up to the House whether the bill should pass despite the veto.

### House Thrown Into Uproar.

Immediately the House was thrown into an uproar, proponents of the higher price trying to obtain adjournment but failing. Finally a motion of no quorum was made and the roll call disclosed that only 209 answered—not a quorum—and it was not possible to do anything with the measure to-day.

The veto message follows:  
"To the House of Representatives:  
"I regret to return without my signature so important a measure as H. R. 3024, entitled 'An act making appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1919, but I feel constrained to do so because of my very earnest dissent from the point of view of principle as well as of wise expediency, from the provision of that part of section 14 which prescribes a uniform minimum price for No. 2 Northern spring wheat at \$2.40 a bushel.

I dissent upon principle because I believe that such inelastic legislative price provisions are insusceptible of being administered in a way that would be advantageous either to the producer or to the consumer, establishing as they do arbitrary levels which are quite independent of the normal market conditions, and because I believe that the present methods of regulating by conference with all concerned has resulted in the most satisfactory manner, considering the complexity and variety of the subject matter dealt with.

### Production Stimulated.

"It is evident that the present method of determining the price to be paid for wheat has had the most stimulating effect upon production, the estimated crop of spring wheat for this year exceeding all high records in a very remarkable and gratifying way.

"By an overwhelming majority of the farmers of the United States the price of wheat has been regarded as fair and liberal, and objections to it have come only from those sections of the country in which unfortunately it has in recent years proved impossible to depend upon climatic conditions to produce a full crop of wheat, and where, therefore, many disappointments to the farmer have been inevitable.

### Would Destroy Flexibility.

"The administrative method of agreeing upon a price has this very great advantage which any element of rigidity would in large part destroy, namely the advantage of flexibility of rendering possible at every stage and in the view of every crop of wheat a readjustment which will be fair alike to producer and consumer.

"A fixed minimum price of \$2.40 per bushel would, it is estimated, add \$3 per barrel to the price of flour from the present price of \$10.50 at the mills to \$12.50 at the mills, and inasmuch as we are exporting a crop of approximately 90,000,000 bushels of wheat this increase would be equivalent to the immense sum of \$270,000,000.

"Such an increase of the price of wheat in the United States would force a corresponding increase in the price of Canadian wheat. The Allied Governments would of course be obliged to make all of their purchases at the increased figure, and the whole scale of

Continued on Third Page.

## Joffre Sends Bastille Greeting to U. S. Troops

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.  
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PARIS, July 12.—Joseph Joffre, Marshal of France, has sent the following message to the American Expeditionary Force in France on the occasion of Bastille Day:

France celebrates on July 14, her national independence, as Americans observed theirs on July 4. On these two solemn days American and French hearts beat in unison; all feel that the moment approaches when, thanks to their common efforts, the defeat of Germany will allow all free nations to celebrate at last the independence of the world.

JOFFRE.

## COAL MEN JOIN BONE DRY PARTY

Say Choice Is "Booze for the  
Miners or Fuel for the  
War and Nation."

### CONTROVERSY AT CRISIS

### Agreement to Take Vote on Bill After Recess Is Now Expected.

Special Dispatch to The Sun.  
WASHINGTON, July 12.—That the question of whether the United States is to be made bone dry for the period of the war has begun to absorb the interest of the country and is bringing many new factors into the situation was indicated by developments here to-day. These developments were:

The National Coal Association, representing operatives with an output of nearly four hundred million tons yearly, came out flatly for prohibition and declared that it is absolutely necessary to make effective any plan for increased coal production. Chairman Hamilton of the operators' committee, making his report, said it was up to Congress to make a clean cut choice between booze for the mining communities and coal for the war and the public.

Hundreds of telegrams descended upon the White House from all parts of the United States protesting against the enactment of bone dry legislation as being ruinous to banks and to millions of dollars of invested capital, yearly come out flatly for prohibition, and because I believe that the present methods of regulating by conference with all concerned has resulted in the most satisfactory manner, considering the complexity and variety of the subject matter dealt with.

### Revenue Loss Discussed.

A night conference held at the White House by the President, Senator Simmons and Representative Kitchin is understood to have been occupied largely by the revenue situation as it might be affected by prohibition. Senator Simmons pointed out that it meant a loss to the Treasury of between five hundred million and six hundred million dollars next year, which would have to be made up by new taxes if the bone dry measure should pass and be approved by the President.

### Compare Production Records.

It was announced that the conclusion represented not only their judgment but that of Frank Farnington, president of the United Mine Workers in Illinois. Before making public their recommendation, the committee unanimously and unqualifiedly believed that national prohibition for the period of the war is absolutely necessary to make effective this or any other plan for increased coal production.

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"A comparison of the records of production of mines and dry territory further ample proof of the need of prohibition. The various instances cited to you need not be repeated here, but they typify the experience of operators throughout the entire country."

A. R. Hamilton, chairman of the committee said this statement:

"Our committee is composed of pro-

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The Government has instructed newspapers to discontinue all return copies and to supply new ones with enough copies only to fill their regular orders. Therefore if you wish to get your paper regularly PLACE A STANDING ORDER FOR IT WITH YOUR NEWSDEALER.

## DR. DERNBURG JOINS GROWING PEACE PARTY

### Policy Which Wrecked Von Kuehlmann Now Accepted.

### RECEPTIVE, BUT HOPELESS

### German Authorities Expect No Proposition From the Allies.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.  
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PARIS, July 12.—Chief interest here in the German cabinet upset is in the part played and to be played by Frederick von Payer, the Imperial Vice Chancellor. That the trouble is not yet over, is clear from the telegram which the Chancellor took the trouble to send to Von Payer, warning him of his intention to name Admiral von Hintze in place of Foreign Minister von Kuehlmann, and also assuring him that the change entails no modification in the foreign policies of the Government.

Von Payer's threat to resign if the Socialists joined the opposition in the Reichstag, appears to have had its effect, and a truce, or agreement, has been patched up under which the Social Democrats are to remain with the majority. This truce extends even to the peace question, and it is noteworthy that, despite the fact that the disintegration of the party and the complete domination of Lenin and Trotsky by the Germans, is furnished by Dr. Demetri Gavranovsky, a member of the Constituent Assembly and leader of the Social Revolutionaries, who attended the sessions of the Soviet Congress at Moscow, where Count von Mirbach, the German Ambassador, was denounced and threatened by the party to his assassination.

### Ready for Peace Offers.

The military element has been brought into line also, and it seems to be unanimously agreed by the politicians and German army headquarters that they are ready to receive any sincere peace proposal from the Allies, all knowing well that there is no possibility that such a proposal will be made from that source.

Chancellor von Hertling has even explained to the Reichstag committee that Germany's willingness to discuss a "righteous peace" was clearly expressed in his reply to the Pope, and she will not change her attitude. Admiral von Hintze falls into line, with a formal declaration that he will follow the "Chancellor's policy."

The point where new friction seems most probable is between Von Payer and Von Hintze. As the latter is on top, for the moment, the Frankfurt Gazette very frankly invites Von Payer to retire. Von Hintze is not regarded here as in any sense a statesman; he is a fighting man. New light was thrown upon the case yesterday by Paul Sabatier of the French Foreign Ministry, who knew him well during his mission to Petrograd.

### Hintze Disciple of Tirpitz.

Von Hintze, according to this information, has been made an ardent disciple of the Von Tirpitz policy, and is an ardent believer in the submarine as the means of winning the war for Germany. Sabatier characterized him as "a political apache," a man whose aims are corruption, bribery and crime, in order to gain his ends. He was not only a socialist, and an extreme anti-Semitic tendencies, and private applauded the massacres of Jews in Russia.

He was sent to the czar's court as a "military plenipotentiary," and his function was to establish more intimate relations between the imperial household of the two nations, and only for the purpose of obtaining the czar's support of the Kaiser's schemes for world conquest. In no small measure he was one of the creators of the "Willy-Nicky" correspondence.

### Tells of Intrigue in China.

In describing Von Hintze's intrigues in China, how he bribed the Chinese press with the money obtained from the Boxer indemnity, to what extremes he went to establish German commerce on a strong basis in China, Sabatier says that Von Hintze told the President of China that Germany was resolved to fight the war to a finish, and if necessary would use women and children to accomplish his object.

### The semi-official view here is that Admiral von Hintze may last two or three months in his new post. He is regarded here as essentially a foreign minister, "of the offensive," to quote one official.

## HERTLING'S STAND UNYIELDING AS EVER

### Accuses Wilson and Balfour of Desire to Destroy Empire.

LONDON, July 12.—Debate on the general political situation was opened in the Reichstag on Thursday by Imperial Chancellor von Hertling, who discussed the retirement of Dr. Richard von Kuehlmann, the German Foreign Secretary, the foreign policy of the Government and the economic problems which had arisen because of recent developments in the East. According to a German official wireless message received here the Imperial Chancellor said:

"I maintain the standpoint of the im-

Continued on Second Page.

## Austrians Sell Estates, Fearing a Revolution

### By the Associated Press.

ITALIAN ARMY HEADQUARTERS, July 12.—Austrian prisoners confirm the reports that a large number of noblemen are selling their estates in Bohemia and Moravia because they fear a revolution.

It is said that Count Czernin, formerly Austro-Hungarian Foreign Minister, has sold for 3,000,000 crowns all his lands in Bohemia, and that the purchaser was a banker with agricultural interests.

It also is asserted that Count Henry Clam Martinic, formerly Premier, expressed the opinion in Vienna that a revolution was probable in Moravia and he therefore was selling his lands there.

## BOLSHEVIK RULE NEAR COLLAPSE

### Growing Opposition of the Factions Likely to Bring a Crisis Soon.

### ALLIED AID HOPED FOR

### Manager of Chinese Railroad Proclaimed Ruler of Siber- ian Republic.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.  
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LONDON, July 12.—Further confirmation of the rapidly increasing opposition to the Bolsheviks among the workmen and peasants of Russia, the complete domination of Lenin and Trotsky by the Germans, is furnished by Dr. Demetri Gavranovsky, a member of the Constituent Assembly and leader of the Social Revolutionaries, who attended the sessions of the Soviet Congress at Moscow, where Count von Mirbach, the German Ambassador, was denounced and threatened by the party to his assassination.

Gavranovsky, who has just arrived in Stockholm from Moscow, says the Bolsheviks now base their power principally on foreign support and that the Social Revolutionary party, as well as the masses of the Russian Revolutionary party look to the indispensable aid of the Allies to free the country from the menace of absorption by the Germans.

"In Moscow," he adds, "the Bolsheviks have at their disposal 16,000 well trained Lettish soldiers, some detachments of the Finnish Red Guards and a battalion of Chinese troops used for the purpose of carrying out executions. They are supported also by the German prisoners of war."

### Horvath Head of SIBERIAN REPUBLIC

Manager of Chinese Railroad  
Proclaimed Premier.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.  
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LONDON, July 12.—Gen. Horvath, director and general manager of the Chinese Eastern Railroad, has proclaimed himself premier of the temporary Siberian Government, according to a despatch to the Daily Mail from Harbin. The programme of Gen. Horvath, who is intensely anti-Bolshevik, is to restore the political and commercial relations of Russia with the Entente Allies, to repel the Bolsheviks, to reestablish a disciplined and non-political army and to restore all private property. Gen. Horvath favors Siberian autonomy and religious freedom.

Gen. Horvath is an anti-German as he is anti-Bolshevik. A telegram from his headquarters in Eastern Manchuria says:

"Paragraph five of the programme of my Government, which establishes a renewal of all treaties with the Allied Powers, is at once confirmation of the firm intention on our part to act in complete accord with our brave allies and to return to Russian ranks those who are fighting with the enemy."

The despatch adds that the Siberian Government is intensely pro-Ally.

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Tokio despatches to London on Wednesday stated that a new provisional government had been established in Siberia. It was said that it had the unanimous support of the population and would continue to fight the Central Powers. The seat of this government, it was said, was at Vladivostok.

The programme of the new government, as outlined in the despatch, included the liberation of Siberia from the Bolsheviks, the avoidance, if possible, of foreign intervention; universal suffrage, establishment of provincial councils and a labor bureau, distribution of land among the landless and the control of economic activities.

## FOCH'S ARMIES NOW IN CASTEL AND LONGPONT

### Amazing Success of Sys- tematic Sorties Suggests Grand Strategic Plan.

### BRITISH WIN THRUSTS

### Allies' Lines Advancing in Several Sectors, but Berlin Claims Repulse of Raids.

LONDON, July 12.—Attacking in considerable force to-day on a front that has been quiet for a long time north-west of Montdidier the French drove forward on a line of about three miles and penetrated to a depth of a mile and a quarter, capturing the village of Castel, the Anchin farm, a number of other strong German positions and 500 prisoners. This sector extends from Castel, one of the gateways to Amiens, down nearly to Mailly-Raineval, where it joins the American section west and northwest of Montdidier, and it is very likely that American troops, if not American units, took part in the operation.

It was at Grivesnes, just south of Mailly-Raineval, and Cantigny, a little further south, that the first notable successes of American troops were achieved. The fine success of the Australians and Americans recently was about Hamel, immediately adjoining this area on the northeast.

### Fighting Near Ypres.

Berlin reports lively patrol fighting on the British front, but the attacks were of little importance. This fighting extended from the vicinity of Ypres down below Albert.

Although these numerous French drives, first on one sector then on another, are commonly referred to as local operations, their amazing success and the way in which they have been carried out, which extends also to the American and British attacks, make them begin to look more like a part of a grand strategic plan which has been adopted by Gen. Foch and is being worked out as rapidly as circumstances permit.

### French Dominate the Aisne.

The French success to-day gives them command of the high ground immediately west of the Aisne river from which they dominate the valley of that stream, here running nearly north, and the town of Moreuil, on the east bank. They now hold one of the strongest positions immediately east or southeast of Amiens.

The Associated Press correspondent with the British army in France says British operations in the Meuse sector yesterday have brought the line forward to within about a quarter of a mile west of that important hamlet and secured for the British complete observation of German positions in the village.

On Tuesday Australian units pushed forward northwest of Merris along a front of 1,200 yards to a depth of 250 yards and drove the enemy from the high ground overlooking Merris. Yesterday the British infantry again reached out and claimed another strip of hostile ground west of Merris. This advance reached a maximum depth of about half a mile and extended along a front of 2,500 yards.

As a result the British positions have

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## Rogers Children Win Our Soldiers' Thanks

THE latest mails from Over There have brought cards of gratitude to the two talented children of Will Rogers, lariat thrower, for their SUN Tobacco Fund contributions.

To Mastiff Will, Jr., Private Donald L. Forbes, Company L, 1024 Infantry, writes:

"Received your welcome donation when we were near the trenches and it certainly came in fine. I have a little brother only 5½, also, and I think the world of him."

To little Bill's sister, who is only 3½, Lieut. W. C. Hatch says:

"The soldiers wish to thank Miss Mary for her little present to them. She proves herself a true daughter of the U. S. A."

See page 4.

## WAR LORDS ANXIOUS.

They Do Not Minimize Importance  
of United States Army.

GENEVA, July 12.—The military critic of the Tribune de Geneve says he recently met a high German officer who asserted that although the German newspapers had been prohibited from mentioning American military matters, except the taking of prisoners, the American invasion of Europe and the great aid being rendered by the Americans to the Entente Allies is causing much anxiety at the German Imperial Headquarters.

People cannot understand, the German officer said, why the successful German submarine warfare announced by the Reichstag is unable to prevent a million Americans landing in France. The Germans, he added, are learning the truth only through foreign newspapers.

The Swiss Le Monde remarks in this connection that it is "prudent and safer for German submarines to sink unarmed hospital ships than to attack a protected American troop ship."

### Mr. Vernon Air Cadet Injured.

BREILVILLE, Ill., July 12.—Lieut. John Eklund of Mount Vernon, N. Y., and Capt. Wilder C. Clark, Cambridge, Mass., were injured when an airplane in which they were flying at Scott Field, near here, fell from a height of 100 feet. Lieut. Eklund was hurt seriously. The cause of the accident is unknown.

## GERMAN PRISONERS TOO VOLUBLE, SAYS LUDENDORFF

### Contrasts Taciturn Americans With Teutonic Captives, Whose Wagging Tongues Give United States Officers Valuable Information.

### By HERBERT BAILEY.

### Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun and the Public Ledger.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, July 12.—I understand that within the last few weeks Gen. Ludendorff has issued a number of orders complaining about the amount of military intelligence the Allies get from German prisoners and the paucity of information which he in turn acquires from Allied prisoners.

In one order he appeals to the patriotism of troops who fall into the hands of the Allies, urging them to refuse to talk and remarking that hundreds of lives are imperilled through the volubility of prisoners of war. It is certain

that so docile do the German soldiers become under their own discipline that they answer questions put to them by the Allied examining officers as promptly as they answer questions by their own officers.

It is amazing how much information German soldiers write in letters home or carry about on their persons in notebooks or diaries. Furthermore, the Prussian practice of frightening their men by warnings that the Allies murder all their prisoners inevitably makes information more accessible than otherwise.

I have seen many who might have said little or nothing freely with examining officers and pouring out information. Thus does the Prussian method again fail in the end.

## U. S. AID SMALL, GERMANS TOLD

### Belittling Policy Evidently Inspired by War Lords to Bolster Up Courage.

### CRITIC TRIES BOASTING

### Asserts That Million Amer- icans Are Not Equal to Russians Out of War.

By the Associated Press.  
AMSTERDAM, July 12.—The military contributor to the Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung in discussing Secretary of War Baker's recent announcement as to the number of American soldiers sent overseas evidently writes from official inspiration. His arguments are similar to those of Lieut. Gen. von Ardenne, who responded to the Norddeutsche Zeitung's assertion that he did not believe the figures of American power and that numbers do not count, anyhow.

"We are unable to verify the accuracy of Secretary Baker's figures," writes the Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung's contributor. "However, the fact only intended to throw dust into the eyes of the world. The large number claimed for the last three months seems to us quite impossible in view of the shortage of enemy tonnage." The writer then presents a calculation of his own and comes to the conclusion "it can't be done."

"Let us assume that Secretary Baker's figures are correct," he continues. "We need not be alarmed. A nation which has fought a number of enemies four years cannot be frightened by the American body. As an unimpaired force they cannot force war and not the equals of our war proved, uncomparable troops."

"What is a million of Americans compared to the ten million well trained and equipped Russians who have fallen out of the battle line? Where could the Americans have raised the requisite number of officers and non-commissioned officers so expeditiously?"

The writer then goes on to argue that what Great Britain failed to do America cannot accomplish. He asserts that the American fighting men cannot be properly equipped because the American material manufacturers are swindlers.

"Moreover," he says, "our experience with the American soldiers has not served to fill us with excessive respect for them, although many doubts are regulars and comparatively well trained. We would not be afraid of 5,000,000 of them. They do not know what they are fighting for."

After similar criticisms of the Americans as fighting men the military contributor arrives at the following conclusion: "We do not believe that there is a large number of them in the battle line, and even if it were true we will whip them anyhow."

## U. S. HAS 300,000 IN TRENCH LINE

### House Committee Gets Figures on Fighters Ready for Action July 1.

### 625 BIG PLANES BUILT

### 3,000,000 Shrapnel Shells Go to Americans—Machine Gun Delivery Rapid.

Special Dispatch to The Sun.  
WASHINGTON, July 12.—Nearly a third of a million Americans in round numbers are fighting in the first line trenches in France—eleven full divisions, a total of more than 200,000 men, were in the trenches on July 1—members of the House Military Affairs Committee were informed to-day at their meeting with the War Committee.

The committee was told that "the delivery of shells has just begun," but coupled with this was the statement that more than 3,000,000 shrapnel shells had been delivered in France for the American troops, a third of a million 2½ inch shells and 10,000 4.7 inch shells.

Machine gun deliveries "have begun," the committee members were told, and on the heels of this was the statement that more than 11,000 machine guns have been delivered abroad. Of this number there are 3,458 Lewis guns, 2,250 Maxim guns, 4,829 Vickers guns, 100 Browning machine guns of the heavy type and 1,022 Browning guns of the light automatic type.

### A. ROOSEVELT MAY COME BACK

Arm Partly Paralyzed as a Result  
of His Wounds.

PARIS, July 12.—Capt. Archie Roosevelt, who was twice wounded by shrapnel last March, has undergone an operation for the purpose of readjusting the nerves in his left arm, which was partly paralyzed.

He has been transferred to the hospital at Neuilly. He is cheerful and renews the prospect of being invalided home, which is a possibility.

## U-BOAT CAPTURES BARK OFF CAPE RACE

### Norwegian Crew of 19 Brought to U. S.

AN ATLANTIC PORT, July 12.—A German submarine, appearing July 4, 300 miles off Cape Race, captured the Norwegian bark Marx King and ordered the crew of 19 to take to the boats. It was learned to-night when the survivors were brought here on a British steamship which picked them up at sea.

The survivors said they did not know what became of the bark, whether she was sunk or converted for use by the Germans.

The Marx King, a vessel of 1,725 gross tons, left a United States Atlantic port about two weeks ago. She is the first craft reported to have encountered a U-boat so far north in the Atlantic.

Members of the crew explained that they became so excited at meeting a submarine that they promptly obeyed the order to abandon the bark. Pulling away rapidly, they were overtaken by darkness before seeing what disposition had been made of the sailing vessel. None reported having heard an explosion.

The Marx King was built at Stockholm, England, in 1854, by Richardson, Dock and Company. She was registered at Fredericksburg as owned by T. Wilhelmsen and Axel Jacobson. She was commanded by Capt. Helgesen.

## Single Front 200 Miles Long Extends From Albania to Salonica.

### GREEKS IN THE FIGHT

### Bulgarian Positions Being Threatened by New Army in Balkans.

### SERBIANS EAGER TO AID

### Jugo-Slavs and Czecho-Slovaks Also Express Desire to Coop- erate Against Hapsburgs.

By the Associated Press.  
ROME, July 12.—"Austria is about to crumble away" is the opinion of political and military observers here after the publication of the latest reports from Albania and the Balkans, where the Entente Allies have succeeded in perfecting a single front, extending from the Adriatic Sea to Salonica, on the Aegean Sea, a distance of some 200 miles.

Unofficial advices to-day reported the capture of Berat, an important Austrian supply base in Albania. A large number of prisoners and vast quantities of war supplies were seized by the allied troops in the capture of the city.

### Navies Aiding in Blow.

British monitors and Italian destroyers are cooperating with the Italian troops which are penetrating into the heart of Albania. These forces are flanked by French troops north of Korica, while further east the Greek army, which is daily growing in efficiency, threatens the Bulgarian positions.

In Albania there are many Serbians and Montenegrins who have expressed their impatience to reenter the struggle to recover their native countries. The Jugo-Slavs and Czecho-Slovaks there are said to believe that their compatriots in the interior of Austria will be of assistance if the allied offensive continues successful.

### Report of Itallings.

The official statement of the Rome War Office follows:

Along the front in northern Italy there has been intermittent artillery fire. In the Arona Valley our patrols destroyed two small enemy posts and captured a few prisoners. A few Italian troops have been killed in an attempt to break through the enemy lines.

In Albania our troops are continuing the work of clearing the ground from which the Austrians were driven and gathering booty. Three cannon, eight mountain guns, four trench guns and two trench mortars have been found.

### Official French Report.

The official statement from the French army headquarters on the fighting in Albania follows:

Near Varamina a detachment of Bulgarian assault troops which had succeeded in gaining a momentary foothold upon Serbian positions were immediately repulsed.

In Albania our troops continue to progress. On the right bank of the Devoli River we have occupied the banks of the Kayani. Upon the left bank of the Devoli we have cleared a whole mountainous region between the Devoli and the Tomorica, with the exception of the heights which dominate the country of those streams, where the enemy continues his resistance. The total number of prisoners which have fallen into our hands is more than 400.

### Italians Say Figures Are Correct.

Italian military authorities, in answer to a new Austrian denial from Budapest relative to Italian reports of prisoners and guns captured in the Piave fighting, say that a Hungarian deserter from Rome, assert they figures are fully substantiated by the fact that they have submitted a full list of names to the Red Cross at Geneva under the rules of war.

The report adds that the number of guns captured was greater, instead of less, than the Austrian denial. The Italian forces have been augmented by twenty-two guns taken in the Piave delta, the loss of which has been ignored by the Austrians.

## ALBANIAN CAMPAIGN STAYS GERMAN DRIVE

### Ludendorff Also Has Encoun- tered Other Obstacles.

WASHINGTON, July 12.—The rapid advance of the forces of the Allies against the Austrians in Albania is viewed here as one of the probable causes for the delay of the German in launching a new offensive on the front in France. It is the belief of military men here that Gen. Ludendorff, who is looked upon as the real leader of the German forces, has encountered severe obstacles and that the attack against the Allies in the west must be deferred until the obstacles can be overcome.

Austria has been clamoring for help from Germany and the Kaiser in turn has refused to send the promised divisions. Some military men believe that the German must keep every available man on the western front, due to the even balance of the forces at the present time and also the increasing number of arriving Americans. These will swing the balance on the side of the Allies and Gen. Foch commander in chief of the Allied forces may decide to strike once he has a preponderance of troops and supplies.

For this reason Germany must conserve her man power on the western front. It is this policy is to be carried